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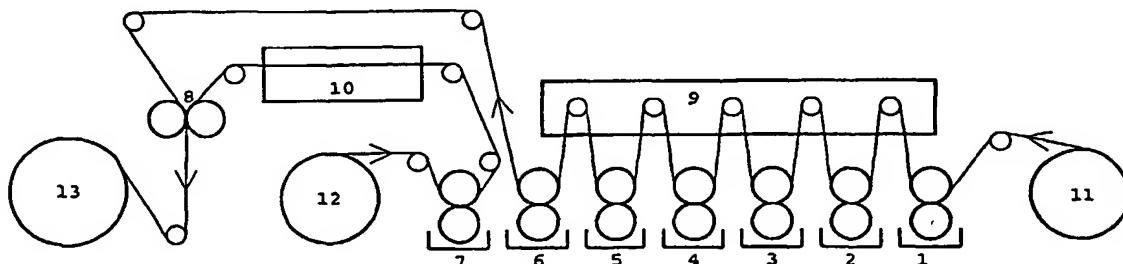
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(54) Title: IN-LINE DEMETALLIZATION PROCESS FOR FLEXIBLE METALLIZED SUBSTRATES



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(57) Abstract: The present invention discloses a continuous process for the partial demetallization of a first multilayer substrate, comprising at least one metallic layer 21, characterised in that a designed lacquer comprising at least one metal dissolving etchant 25, locally reacts with said metallic layer 21 and that the dissolved metal remains within said multilayer structure and that the dissolution of the metal allows the creation of a window in said metallic layer without the necessity of a washing step and in that said partial demetallization is suitable to be carried out on standard gravure or flexo printing presses or coating equipment.

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 C23F1/02 B44C3/00 B44C1/22 B41M1/30

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, PAJ, WPI Data, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 3 647 508 A (GORRELL JOHN H) 7 March 1972 (1972-03-07) cited in the application column 8, line 60 - line 71; claim 1 column 1, line 5 - line 8 column 9, line 5 - line 16 column 8, line 23 - line 28 ---	1, 3, 4, 7-10
Y	US 5 759 422 A (HABEGER CHARLES C ET AL) 2 June 1998 (1998-06-02) column 5, line 33 - line 35	2
Y	US 2002/045351 A1 (JO GYOO CHUL) 18 April 2002 (2002-04-18) the whole document ---	2
A		1, 3-10
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
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